

News

FOR YOU...

"Barron Electric Cooperative is a member-owned business that provides energy, products, and services to improve the quality of life in the area we serve."

March 2008

Notice of Proposed Changes to Bylaws

Resolution One

Amendment to Bylaw ARTICLE XI, SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

(additions in **bold**):

a. The Cooperative shall not become a member of or purchase stock in any other organization, **except as allowed in (b)**, without an affirmative vote of the members at a duly held meeting, the notice of which shall specify that action is to be taken upon such proposed membership or stock purchase, provided, however, that the Cooperative may upon authorization of the Board of Directors, purchase stock in or become a member of any corporation or organization organized on a non-

profit basis for the purpose of engaging in or furthering the cause of rural electrification, or of any other corporation for the purpose of acquiring electric facilities.

b. The cooperative, through an affirmative vote of the Board of Directors, shall be allowed to become a member of a non-profit energy conservation organization or corporation and to allow member participation in said non-profit

energy organization's or corporation's program(s). -
submitted by Barron Electric Member Charles Nizzi

The Resolutions Committee recommended that the membership reject this proposed bylaw change. The consensus of the Resolutions Committee was that the Board of Directors currently has the authority under existing bylaws and policies. Therefore, the change is unnecessary.

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Official Notice of Barron Electric's 72nd Annual Meeting

Pursuant to the provision of the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of members of Barron Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, March 29, 2008, at the Barron High School, with registration beginning at 9:00 a.m. The business meeting will follow at 10:00 a.m. to take action upon the following matters:

- To receive reports of officers, directors and committees
- To elect three directors to serve a three-year term in Districts 2, 4, and 8
- To address all other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments, thereof

Please note resolutions are included in this newsletter as part of the official notice. This newsletter will also be distributed at the annual meeting.

Dated this 29th day of February, 2008
Barbara Holman, Secretary



Mark Your Calendars for Barron Electric's Annual Meeting Set for March 29

Barron Electric members are invited to attend the 72nd Annual Meeting scheduled for Saturday, March 29 at the Barron High School. Registration will start at 9:00 a.m. with the business meeting following at 10:00 a.m. A kids' program is available for children ages 12 and under, and includes swimming at the Barron Area Community Center, games, and movies.

Renewables, Efficiency, and Conservation is the theme of the annual meeting. Guest speakers include Jeff Springer of Gen~Sys Energy, who will address energy conservation; Perry Baird will give an update from the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association; and Brian Schilling of Bauman Associates will discuss the auditor's report. Members will elect directors from Districts 2, 4, and 8 to serve a three-year term.

Shuttle Service Available

A shuttle service will be available to the annual meeting for those members who live in the northern part of our service territory. The shuttle will leave at 8:30 a.m. from Barron Electric's Spooner office. If you are interested in this service, please

contact Member Services at 800-322-1008 by **Friday, March 14.**



Prizes

Members of the cooperative who register prior to 10:00 a.m. and are in attendance at the conclusion of the meeting will be eligible to win the following prizes:

- 32" flat-panel high-definition TV
 - 20-\$50 electric bill credits
 - A variety of electric appliances and electronics
- A lunch will be provided following the meeting.

Ken Petersen Captures Ally of Co-op Electrification Award

Ken Petersen was recently named the 42nd recipient of the Ally of Cooperative Electrification (ACE) Award, Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's (WECA) highest honor. Acting WECA Manager Perry Baird credited Petersen with engineering a turnaround in Barron Electric's member responses to cooperative policy, beginning when he took over as general manager in 1984. Baird quoted Board President Selmer Nelson saying, "Petersen stepped up communications to where they actually meant something and the door was opened to member input and ideas. As a result, we became user-friendly, members felt important and useful, and above all they felt welcome."

Petersen was credited as a leader in the Wisconsin electric co-ops initially lonely, but ultimately successful struggle against electric utility restructuring. He served as WECA Legislative Committee chairman during the decade that spanned those events. Fellow Manager Marty Hillert of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative said, "Petersen has his heart wrapped around the cooperative principles, and his first concern is the welfare of his cooperative members and friends."



Ken Petersen, Barron Electric's General Manager, receives the ACE Award from Perry Baird, Interim Manager of the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association.

Tri-State Lumber and Land Will Be Featured at Annual Meeting

Combine the logging expertise of Michael Hageny with the real estate knowledge of Tom Hansen, and a successful business called Tri-State Lumber & Land was created. Tri-State's sawmill and dry kiln facilities are located on Barron Electric Cooperative lines in Trego. They will be the featured business at Barron Electric's Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 29.

Tri-State Lumber employs 27 people and sells hardwood lumber to contractors and distributors throughout Wisconsin, sells bark for mulch and landscaping, while byproducts are sold as fuel. Raw material is purchased from local loggers, or land is purchased, logged, and developed. They also bid on stumpage jobs through county and state sales. Once the lumber is milled and air dried, it is placed into dry kilns. "Since the kilns use a lot of electricity, we have been fortunate to have affordable electric rates, which are lower than other states," commented Hansen.

Last year, Tri-State Lumber was one of 15 Wisconsin companies awarded a Value-Added Producer Grant. They were awarded \$300,000 for working capital to increase sawmill production through the acquisition of bigger blocks of raw material. These grants

were awarded to help grow Wisconsin agriculture and boost energy independence.

Visit with Tri-State Lumber

& Land personnel at Barron Electric's Annual Meeting.



Tri-State Lumber sells hardwood lumber to contractors and distributors throughout Wisconsin, sells bark for mulch and landscaping, while byproducts are sold as fuel.

Notice of Proposed Changes to Bylaws

Continued from cover

Resolution Two

Amendment to Bylaws, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3. NOTICE OF MEMBERS' MEETINGS. (additions in **bold**)

Written, **electronic**, or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting, and in case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than seven (7) days nor more than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, either personally, **electronically**, or by mail, by or at the direction of the secretary, or by the persons calling the meeting, to each member. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member **with postage thereon prepaid. If sent electronically, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered on the date sent to the member.** In case of a joint membership, notice given to either ~~husband or wife~~ **party** shall be deemed notice to both joint members at ~~his address~~ **the account** as it appears on the records of the Cooperative, ~~with postage thereon prepaid.~~ The failure of any member to receive notice of an annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by members at such meeting. -Submitted by the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative

The Resolution Committee recommended adoption of the proposed resolution.



Director's Notes



Glenn Smith serves as treasurer on Barron Electric's Board of Directors representing District 9.

CONDENSED BOARD MINUTES DECEMBER 21, 2007

- Director Smith gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Manager Petersen. A report of vouchers for the month was printed as part of the board packet as follows: #73945 thru 74133, and #20059320-337 on First National Bank of Barron were in the amount of \$323,531. Director Smith reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$1,069,721; total receipts by wire, ACH, credit cards - \$80,270; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$790,984; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$69,746; power bill due 12/26/07 - \$1,368,703, and capital credits - \$14,081. A membership list was approved as presented.
- Director Smith reported on the safety meeting held on December 13th, at which topics covered included chain saw safety and hearing protection.
- A Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$210,073.19 was approved as presented, and included new services-\$86,517.04; change jobs-\$31,570.81; miscellaneous-\$91,985.34; and 6 retirements.

Barron Electric Cooperative

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Barron Electric. If you have any
comments regarding the newsletter,
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Higher Electric Bills Due to Cold Weather

Every year during the winter months, Barron Electric receives calls from members concerned because their electric usage has increased. There are many reasons for the extra usage:

- One of the biggest increases in winter electric usage comes from the use of electric space heaters, heat tapes, and heat lamps. While space heaters may be necessary to keep pipes or rooms from freezing, they can significantly increase the electric usage. Make sure they're working properly and are not set at a higher temperature than necessary.

- Another item is engine heaters. Just one 1,000-watt heater used 8 hours per day for one month can cost approximately \$21 per month. An inexpensive timer added to the engine heater can be a big savings. Most engine heaters only need to be turned on for 3 to 4 hours.

Check out the following websites for more ways to save energy:

- www.energyguide.com
- www.eia.doe.gov
- www.nfec.org
- www.dairy.net

For Sale

- Country Mobile Home Park, large wood lots, single or double-wide, Prairie Lake Estates. 715-925-2034.
- Buy a Heatmaster stainless steel outdoor woodstove from Pineview Woodstoves. Excellent design and reasonable prices. Call Randy Koehn at 357-3298.
- Markie P. Construction for all your remodeling needs. Senior discounts. Free estimates. Call 715-924-3488 or cell 715-642-0078.
- Paying too much for insurance? Life-Health-Home-Auto-Business-Medicare Supplements-Long Term Care. Korthof Insurance Services. 715-766-2505 or KorthofInsuranceServices@direcway.com
- New paddle boats, top-of-the-line, carpeted deck, padded seats (four), sun-top, aluminum floats, 6' x 11' with walk-around deck. New smaller pontoon boats, 6 1/2' x 17' full furniture group, sun-top, perfect for smaller lakes, easy to trailer. Kennedy Pontoons, Inc. Centuria, Wisconsin. 715-640-6000 or visit us at www.kennedypontoons.com
- Like to travel? Want to save \$\$ when you do? Book your travel/vacations on-line at www.yttravel.com/mjacky.
- Hayward National Golf Course lots and acreages. Wooded, 1 1/2 Acres +. Contract, cash or will consider trades. 608-231-0023.
- Package Deal, 2005 32' Jayco Eagle 5th wheel, 3 slideouts, 2003 Ford superduty diesel truck with hitch, low mileage! Both like new, \$43,500. 715-458-3862.
- Wanted for 2008 summer. Couple, non-smoking, no pets, to rent completely furnished two bedroom cabin on beautiful Spooner Lake. Private dock, 14 ft. aluminum boat, fish house, and utilities furnished except phone. Deposit required. Call 715-635-6696.
- Steffes and Stiebel Eltron heat storage repair and install. Water heater repair. Call Handyman Plus at 715-458-2967.
- Markie P. Construction – for all your kitchen and bathroom remodeling. Save \$\$\$ Free estimates and senior discounts. Call Mark at 715-924-3488 or 715-642-0078.

Happy Easter



Our office will be closed on Friday, March 21 in observance of Good Friday.